Resolution No.: 16-325

Introduced:

September 11, 2007

Adopted:

October 2, 2007

## COUNTY COUNCIL FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

By: Council President at the Request of the County Executive

SUBJECT:

Supplemental Appropriation #08-208 to the FY08 Operating Budget

Montgomery County Government Fire and Rescue Maintenance Facility

Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service, \$1,681,520

Debt Service Operating Budget, \$310,910

## **Background**

- 1. Section 307 of the Montgomery County Charter provides that any supplemental appropriation shall be recommended by the County Executive who shall specify the source of funds to finance it. The Council shall hold a public hearing on each proposed supplemental appropriation after at least one week's notice. A supplemental appropriation that would comply with, avail the County of, or put into effect a grant or a Federal, State or County law or regulation, or one that is approved after January 1 of any fiscal year, requires an affirmative vote of five Councilmembers. A supplemental appropriation for any other purpose that is approved before January 1 of any fiscal year requires an affirmative vote of six Councilmembers. The Council may, in a single action, approve more than one supplemental appropriation. The Executive may disapprove or reduce a supplemental appropriation, and the Council may reapprove the appropriation, as if it were an item in the annual budget.
- 2. The County Executive has requested the following FY08 Operating Budget appropriation increases for Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service and Debt Service:

	Personnel Services	Operating Expenses	Capita Outlay		Source of Funds
MCFRS	\$0	\$1,681,520	\$0	\$1,681,520	Consolidated Fire Tax District Fund
Debt Service	\$0	\$310,910	\$0	\$310,910	Consolidated Fire Tax District Fund

- 1. This increase is needed to provide a centralized MCFRS facility for daily fleet inspection, maintenance, and repair activities and additional space for the storage and deployment of a ready reserve fleet. The Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Apparatus Management Plan identified the need for up to three facilities for maintenance, staging and storage of MCFRS apparatus. The facility at 14935 Southlawn Lane consists of two buildings totaling approximately 115,000 square feet that can accommodate the size, the circulation and turning radius requirements of the apparatus as well as provide secure, indoor equipment storage. The facility also possesses adequate height clearances that will serve MCFRS's maintenance and staging needs. Fire and Rescue Services will occupy up to 63,630 square feet of the total available space.
- 2. The Department of Liquor Control (DLC) has significant storage needs, and will occupy the remaining 50,560 square feet at the Southlawn site. The additional storage space will enable DLC to create a safer work environment by reducing the levels of stacking of its products at its Crabbs Branch warehouse. It will also enable DLC to improve efficiency through economies of scale, and to improve customer service by stocking a greater variety of products. The FY08 cost to lease the DLC portion of the space will be \$682,940. DLC will spend an additional \$56,900 for a forklift and other equipment to outfit the space. There will also be costs to build out the DLC space, with the exact amount still to be determined. All of the costs for the DLC portion of the facility will be funded from the Liquor Control Fund. According to a 1998 County Attorney's opinion, DLC does not need an appropriation to spend working capital.
- 3. In addition to annual lease payments and buildout costs for MCFRS, the Executive recommends purchasing equipment to outfit MCFRS's portion of the facility at a total cost of approximately \$2.7 million. The Department of Finance determined that issuing Certificates of Participation would be the most cost effective financing option. Debt service will be paid for with Consolidated Fire Tax District funds. A half-year payment of \$310,910 is included in this supplemental appropriation. Additional full year payments of \$621,810 will be required in FYs 09-12, and a half-year payment of \$310,910 will be required in FY13.
- 4. The County Executive recommends a supplemental appropriation to the FY08 Operating Budget of the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service in the amount of \$1,681,520 and the Debt Service Operating Budget in the amount of \$310,910 for an MCFRS maintenance facility and specifies that the source of funds will be the Consolidated Fire Tax District fund.
- 5. Notice of public hearing was given, and a public hearing was held on September 25, 2007.

## **Action**

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland, approves the following action:

A supplemental appropriation to the FY08 Operating Budget of the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service and the Debt Service Operating Budget is approved as follows:

	Personnel Services	Operating Expenses	Capita Outla	 Source of Funds
MCFRS	\$0	\$1,681,520	\$0	Consolidated Fire Tax District Fund
Debt Service	\$0	\$310,910	\$0	Consolidated Fire Tax District Fund

This is a correct copy of Council action.

Linda M. Lauer, Clerk of the Council